Message Text

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DEPARTMENT FOR S/M

DEPARTMENT PASS TO DEA, ATTN EOIE

PARIS AND BARCELONA FOR DEA

E.O,11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR, SP

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN

REF: STATE 306714

1. SUMMARY: GOS WILL PROBABLY SHORTLY PRESENT THEIR PROPOSAL FOR "DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT" ON NARCOTICS COOPERATON, SPANISH PROPOSAL ALMOST CERTAIN TO INCLUDE DESIGNATION OF GABINETE AS DEA COUTERPART. THE MISSION BELIEVES THAT SUCH AGREEMENT WOULD ULTIMATELY STRENGTHEN BOTH SPANISH DRUG CONTROL OPERATIONS AND DEA ACTIVITIES HERE, RATHER THAN PRODUCING NEGATIVE RESULT FORESEEN IN REFTEL. WE WOULD, THEREFORE, APPRECITE RECONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY 76 MADRID 8226 TO INCLUDE ANY CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY WASHNGTON AGENCIES END SUMMARY.

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2. MISSION BELIEVES THAT SUBSTANCE STATE 306714
MAY REFLECT MISUNDERSTANDING BY WASHINGTON ELEMENTS OF GOS
POSITION WITH REGARD US SPANISH NARCOTICS COOPERATION AGREEMENT
AND ALSO BASIC SITUATION HERE. MINISTER OF INTERIOR
MARTIN VILLA STATED (76 MADRID 8191) THAT BASIC LETTER
AND ANNEX PROPOSED BY USG WERE "INSUFFICIENT" TO

CONSTITUTE AGREEMENT (DEPARTMENT'S ASSUMPTION THAT GUIDLINES CONTAINED IN STATE 75-186622 AND REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN STATE 75-177133 AND STATE 76-47537 WERE "FULLY REFLECTED" IN BASIC LETTER AND ANNEX IS CORRECT) FURTHER IN NOVEMBER 18 LETTER (76 MADRID 9035) MARTIN VILLA EXPRESSED "MAJOR INTEREST" OF GOS IN CONCLUSION OF "DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD DEFINE STATUS AND ACTIVITIES OF DEA REPRESENTATIVES IN SPAIN AND STATED THAT EXPERTS GROUP WAS ALREADY WORKING ON GOS DRAFT

3. IT IS THIS MISSIONS VIEW THAT GOS IS MAKING THE REQUIRED EFFORT TO INSURE COORDINATED ACTION OF ALL AGENCIES (INCLUDING DGS AND GUARDIA CIVIL) THROUGH GABINETE, INCLUDING APPOINTMENT OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES TO EXPERTS GROUP WORKING ON DRAFT OFGOS AGREEMENT. MOREOVER REFTEL IS INCORRECT IN STATING THAT GUARDIA CIVIL IS AGENCY "HAVING GREATER INTEREST IN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND WHICH WORKS MOST CLOSELY WITH DEA". FACT IS THAT WHILE GUARDIA CIVIL MAKES MORE DRUG ARRESTS IN SPAIN, DGS IS MORE PROFESSIONAL AND WORKS MORE CLOSELY AND SATISFACTORILY WITH DEA REPRESENTATIVES. IN ANY CASE GOS HAS OFFICIALLY DEFINED GABINETE'S ROLE TO INCLUDE COORDINATION OF JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER NATIONALSAND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND SPANISH DRAFT FOR AGREEMENT WITH US ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL DESIGNATE GABINETE AS DEA COUNTERPART. SEPARATE AGREEMENTS WITH DGS AN GUARDIA VCIVIL. EVEN IF DESIRABLE, WHICH WE DOUBT, APPEAR TO BE OUT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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QUESTION.

4. COMMENT: AS EXPLAINED ABOVE, MISSION BELIEVES SPANISH DRAFT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING GABINETE DESIGNATION, WILL SHORTLY BE READY FOR DISCUSSION. IT IS OBVIOUS TO MISSION THAT SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO OUR EFFORT ELIMATATE FLOW OF ILLICIT DRUGS INTO US. INCLUDING GOS COOPERATION WITH DEA WILL BE MOST EFFECTIVE IF MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL MECHANISM SUCH AS GABINETE. WE BELIEVE MISSION IS IN BEST POSITION TO JUDGE CURRENT SPANISH NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS AND TO NEGOTIATE MOST SATISFACTORY COOPERATION AGREEMENT. IN ORDER REGAIN INITIATIVE WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECONSIDERATION OF OUR PROPOSAL. WITH REGARD ASSISTANCE TO SPANISH, IF THERE ARE STRONG REASONS FOR NOTPURSUING MATTER MISSION ASSESSMENT IS THAT OFFER CAN BE QUIETLY SHELVED WITHOUT SUFFERING STRONG ADVERSEREACTION FROM GOS. HOWEVER, SINCE INFORMAL OFFER WAS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH ORIGINAL

PROPOSAL FOR EXCHANGE OF LETTERS, MISSION WOULD APPREAITE GUIDANCE IN CASE SPANISH INQUIRE. DURING RECENT VISIT BY DEA ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR MARIA, MISSION TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS PROPOSEDAGREEMENT AND PROVIDED COPY OF THIS MESSAGE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEA REGIONAL OFFICIALS IN PARIS CONCUR FULLY WITH ITS SUBSTANCE. STABLER

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